

LAKE GARDNER (Amesbury, MA / South Hampton, NH)

General Information:

This long, narrow, 80-acre impoundment, located about a half-mile northwest of Amesbury center, has a maximum depth of 17 feet and an average depth of 10 feet. Transparency of the brown water is limited to six feet and aquatic vegetation, primarily submerged species, and is abundant throughout the pond. The western shoreline is moderately developed, but the rest of the shore is relatively pristine.

Access is poor and limited to car top boats and canoes. It is located on the extreme southern end of the pond, just east of the dam and outlet.

Fish Populations:

The last fisheries survey, conducted in 1982, recorded nine species: chain pickerel, largemouth bass, white perch, yellow perch, pumpkinseed, bluegill, golden shiner, white sucker and American eel. Chain pickerel dominated the sample. This pond is not stocked with trout.

Fishing:

Due to the poor access and the fact that pickerel dominates the fishery, this pond is best suited to ice fishing. The pickerel are very numerous and some are of good size. The yellow perch and bass populations are not large, but both offer the possibility of at least some limited action. Panfish other than yellow perch are too small and scarce to offer an attractive fishing opportunity.

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